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FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, NOV. 18.

TWELVE PAGES.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.-The Crown Prince started on his top to Spain yesterday. ==== The reported defeat of Admiral Courbet in Tonquin was denied. - M de Lesseps delivered addresses at Liverpool and Manchester on phases of the Suez Canal question. = The man who attempted to shoot M. Ferry is suffering from the effects of typhus fever. == The Vatican has consented to appoint a Nuncio to the United States. ____ Five persons were burned to death in a factory near the City of Mexico.

DOMESTIC .- Alarm is felt in New-Brunswick, N. J., over the prevalence of diphtheria. ____ It is said that libel suits for \$50,000 damages have been brought against A. W. Beard. ____ Libel suits for \$100,000 have been brought against The Marlborough (Mass.) Times, = The withdrawal of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway from the Omaha pool occasions much auxiety. - The Harvard football team was yesterday defeated by the Princetons, and the Rutgers team by that of the University of Pennsylvania.

CITY AND SUBURBAN .- The change in time to the new standard will go into effect at noon to-day. A man who was shot on the night before election died vesterday. Two women were mnrdered in a barn near Oyster Bay, L. I. ____ A jealous husband fired three shots in the Bowery and wounded two men. === The Evacuation Day Committee arranged the order of the procession = Yale easily defeated Columbia at football. - An alleged conspiracy against an agent of the Society for the Prevention of Crime was discovered. - Gold value of the legal tender silver dollar (41212 grains) 85,22 cents. Stocks were more active, and lower but fluctuations were frequent, and the closing was more unsettled than weak.

THE WEATHER .- TRIBUNE local observations indicate warmer and clear or fair weather. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 32°; lowest, 23°; aver-

The end of the famous Hallet Kilbourn case is not yet. Judge Cox in the Circuit Court at Washington yesterday set aside the last verdict for \$60,000, on the ground that it was excessive. It was in 1876 that Kilbourn was locked up forty-five days for refusing to answer the questions of a committee of the House of Representatives, concerning the transactions of a certain real estate pool in the District. After being released he brought suit against the ex-Sergeant-at Arms of the House, Mr. Thompson. and others, asking damages for false imprisonment. After many delays he obtained a verdiet in April, 1882, for \$100,000. A new trial was granted, and the verdict in that i new set aside. The Judge intimated that \$20,000 would be enough. That amount probably will not pay the Kilbourn lawyers.

The election of a Nationalist to represent the city of Limerick in place of Mr. O'Shaughnessy gives Mr. Parnell an additional vote without in dicating any change of sentiment on the part of the constituency. Dr. Butt headed the poll in 1874 with a majority of nearly 300, and in 1880 two Home Rulers were elected with majorities exceeding 400. One of these successful candidates was Mr. O'Shaughnessy, whose recent resignation caused the present vacancy. Elected as a Home Ruler, he became a stanch Ministerialist, voting with The O'Donohue, Mr. Errington, the two Blennerhassetts and others on the side of the Government which had enacted the Land and Arrears bills. The election of a Home Ruler is not, therefore, especially significant. A Nationalist who will acknowledge Mr. Parnell's leadership displaces one who has been unwilling to do so. The Liberals lose a factitious vote which they did not win in the general election.

. There is grave reason to fear that the Board of Estimate has been guilty of transgressing the law. Eminent counsel assert that the loose practice of the Board in making transfers from unexpended balances of appropriations of former years is without warrant of law. The Board has power only to change appropriations from one account to another of the same year. Any other interpretation of the law would

of the deficiency in the collection of taxes, bonds have been issued to the amount of nearly \$10,000,000. To assert that there are unexpended balances, under such circumstances, is simply ridiculous. And we do not wonder that Controller Grant who has been a strong advocate of these transfers, refused to furnish information that would prove the folly of his course.

What to do with the outcast poor of London and their wretched abodes is still a leading topic in the British metropolis. On this question the Radicals find themselves much more in accord with the Tories who follow Lord Salisbury as a leader than with the Liberals. The latter are crying out with a warning voice that care must be taken lest legislative interference should weaken the principle of self-reliance. It is yet too early to venture an opinion as to where the discussion will land the disputants; but it is already apparent that, as attention has been called to it, the actual condition of the poor in London must soon become a matter of official inquiry. Information on the subject has heretofore been carefully kept back by the Vestrymen and the Health officers of the metropolis, who too often are interested in the abuses which aggravate the condition of the poor people in their districts. Even if it ends with an inquiry, therefore, the present discussion will do good. It will bring to light many evils which only need to be shown to be remedied.

The correspondent of THE TRIBUNE at Paris sends an instructive letter which will be found elsewhere in this impression, describing the recent Trades Unions International Congress held in the French capital. The object of the assembly was to form a world-wide association of workingmen. Ostensibly the league was to be against the tyranny of capitalists; in reality it was to form a union of skilled and well-todo workmen in England, France, Spain and Italy against their more unfortunate fellowlaborers of the same or other nationalities who, hard pressed by poverty, were glad to get work where they could and for what they could. Some of the delegates advanced the idea that it would be well to take these wretched laborers and help them on to newer countries where they would have a chance to get employment without hurting any one. But this suggestion found little favor. The more popular plan was to keep out cheap labor and let the cheap laborer look out for himself. The tyranny of capital was never equal to this.

The change in the standards of time, which takes place throughout this country to-day, illustrates, as most great facts accomplished do, the force of perseverance. It was in 1869 that Professor C. F. Dowd, of Saratoga Springs, advanced the idea of simplifying the time problems which the breadth of this country imposed upon its inhabitants. He was supported soon by President Barnard, of Columbia, by Professor Cleveland Abbe, of the American Meteorological Society, and Mr. Sanford Fleming, of the American Society of Civil Engineers. These men took the lead in the scientific side of the work. The practical part of it was undertaken by Mr. W. F. Allen, secretary of the Time Conventions of the railroads. That was about ten years ago. Whenever the representatives of the companies met to arrange the running schedules of the different roads, Mr. Allen presented his arguments for only four kinds of time in the United States. He has finally accomplished his task. It is impossible that these men should not take great satisfaction in their success; and it is only fair that they should have the credit of it.

figures in regard to the condition and needs of that there is no danger of war. And yet we our public schools and additional comments on have neither an effective navy nor adequate the state of affairs which has been disclosed, coast defences. The recent naval report states The information given by the well-known san- that we cannot even hope to keep out an enemy itarian, Dr. A. N. Bell, concerning the serious by improvising torpedo lines. In improving dangers to the health of thousands of children | the approaches to the city we have facilitated from defective light, ventilation and drainage the approach of a foe, and deprived ourselves is of grave importance to every parent who has of several previously available means of dea boy or a girl in any one of the older and less fence. In fact, we are told that New-York is toroot of the evil may be found in the system reparation of this serious oversight cannot be which divides the responsibility between the effected after war has been declared. Board of Health and the Board of Education. partment solely responsible for the sanitary does not possess a stronger navy than our own, strates the existence of an atmosphere, it de condition of our school-houses. It should be Any Power with a stronger navy than our own required by law to have all necessary changes can enter and seize upon, hold to ransom, or and improvements made without delay, the Board of Estimate and Apportionment being cities. New-York, the virtual capital of the authorized to make a special appropriation for | country, and inevitably a shining mark for naval we cannot rely on our Board of Education to look sharply after the health of the children. she cannot be put in a state of defence at short Some of the members are too busy in efforts to raise salaries in the Normal College, and in the executive and supervisory staff of the central office, to concern themselves about the tainted for war in time of peace, to the extent at least air which these little ones are breathing. Others, of providing means of defence. If we cannot without taking the pains to investigate the subject thoroughly, dismiss the whole matter with a | the sea, we should have coast defences capable hrug of the shoulders and a contemptuous emark about "exaggeration" and "humbug." But no one can deny that the inspectors of

sent in at least seventy reports showing defects would be to manifest positive incapacity for in the sanitary arrangement of the school buildings. These inspectors are not prone to exaggerate or to find fault unreasonably. They have nothing to gain by misrepresenting the condition of the school-houses, and they know a great deal more about drainage and ventilation han do most of our excellent Commissioners. The gentlemen who take up the time of the Board with plans to add \$1,000 to the salary of the City Superintendent and to raise the pay of President Hunter's accomplished associates, while these evils exist, are making a great mistake. One Commissioner says that at any rate the children who come from tenement-houses are in much healthier surroundings in the schoolrooms than they are in when at home. Very likely. But how long since the City of New-York set up its tenement-houses as a standard

by which to measure its schools? No. A thousand times no. It is the first, the most pressing, the instant duty of our Commissioners to see to it that our schools are sweet and clean and sound. Everything must wait for that. Mr. Jasper can struggle a little longer on a salary of \$6,500; the professors in the Normal College can exist for a time on \$4,000 each; every scheme to enlarge the outlay on our system of public instruction can wait until the air in our school-houses is made pure and wholesome. If necessary we can even put off the building of new houses and spend some of the money which might be used for them on improving the old ones. But meanwhile do not

day contains, will come to the conclusion that New-York is in danger of spending too little on her schools. The danger is that the \$4,000,000 which has been provisionally appropriated for 1884 will not be spent to the best advantage. Wisely applied that immense sum is sufficient to put every school-house now occupied in good sanitary condition; to erect all the new buildings of which there is urgent need; to pay all necessary working expenses; to compensate reasonably every teacher who is doing genuine and fruitful work; to keep the system of publie instruction here on a high plane of efficiency and excellence. Whether it is enough also to put into effect every pet notion of every extravagant member of the Board of Education, and to provide for all our public institutions on the same scale which private munificence has made possible in some of our great colleges, is quite another matter. And compared with the rest, a matter of little consequence.

THE DEFENCES OF NEW-YORK. Captain Bulloch, in his account of the preparation of the Confederate cruisers, states that if the Governments of France and England had permitted the ironclads built in their countries for the Confederacy to be completed, an attack would have been made upon New-York, and the city would have been held to ransom. He points out, what is perfectly true, that the Federal Government at that time possessed no naval vessels capable of withstanding the ironclads referred to, and that the fortifications of New-York and other Northern ports were wholly inadequate to resist an attack of the kind. In fact, it must be admitted that if Earl Russell and Earl Clarendon had not strained the English municipal law to oblige Mr. Adams and his Government, and if the Emperor Louis Napoleon had not repudiated his own assurances given to the Confederate agents and the Richmond Government, New-York and Boston and Philadelphia would all have been subjected to very unpleasant experiences at that time, whatever the ultimate outcome might have been. That danger passed away, and possibly because (although there were certainly plenty of apprehensions when the Merrimac came out) the Northern people did not realize its full extent, they have never given themselves much uneasiness since in the same connection. The recent report to the Naval authorities at Washington recalls the whole subject to public attention, however, and the opinions expressed in that report are so emphatic that it is impossible not to give them consideration. The publie are told, not indeed for the first time, but with the weight of expert testimony, that the defences of New-York are altogether useless; that there is nothing to prevent an ironclad be longing to some third or fourth rate Power from steaming past all the batteries, or from shelling the city without engaging the batteries at all In fact, it is declared that an ironclad pirate could at any time hold the city to ransom, and that there are no ships in our navy, and no guns in our forts, capable of resisting such a raid.

Now it is perfectly true that the United States s, and is likely to be, at peace with the world. There are at present no warlike clouds on our horizon. But we have not the same assurance for the continuance of peace that we have for the uniformity of any natural law. National affairs, both internal and external, are in a state of incessant mutation. And however peacefully inclined we may be, it must be borne in mind that our success in avoiding war depends at least as much upon others as upon ourselves. And should war come to us by any mischance, it is certain that it would be a naval war. No Power could invade us, and we should as ree tainly not think of sending an army abroad. But we should have to do our fighting on the HOW SCHOOL FUNDS MAY BE APPLIED, high seas, and in the defence of our coasts. All We print this morning additional facts and this is quite self-evident. No one can assert

artillery and naval armor. And, what is more. notice. The implications of this state of affairs are so obvious that it is scarcely necessary to state them. It is the part of wisdom to prepare have a navy capable of meeting an enemy upon of beating off ironclads and also capable of preventing any vessel from approaching near enough to destroy property at long range. Not the Health Department only a few days ago to take so urgent and necessary a precantion self-government.

There seems to be a conflict of opinion sertions. General Sherman says it has become so frequent because the the men are put to do non-military work, and are not paid for it. General Sheridan, on the other hand, thinks that "many young men in the Eastern and Middle States, wanting to better their condition by getting out to the frontier, and not having money enough to reach this El Dorado, enlist in the array for the purpose of getting there at the Government's expense. And then," he says, "to make it more easy for their consciences in deserting their flag they complain of the rations, the work they have to do, and then desert, thus accomplishing the object they had in view when they enlisted." We do not think this explanation is very plausible or probable. We doubt seriously whether young men who have not the means to go West make a practice of enlisting in the army in order to obtain transportation. The process would be complicated, and the means too out of proportion to the end. It would re- ries and milkmen's families to the households of semble the method of Lamb's Chinaman, who burned his house down every time he wanted to roast a pig. The man who enlists takes too many chances, incurs too many dangers, subjects himself to too rigid discipline, to render

thirteen dollars a month; the more especially when two-thirds of this pittance is confiscated during the first year to pay for his outfit. Why the soldier should be made to pay for his outfit is indeed hard to understand, for after he has paid for it he is not permitted to regard or use it as his own property. But hard, monotonous, non-military work, with next to no pay, meagre rations, and a hard discipline, really cause the life of the soldier to resemble that of the convict too closely.

The private soldier, in fact, seems at present to be little other than a convict, plus the chance of being killed. That he should desert under such circumstances cannot be considered remarkable. What is surprising is that there should be any enlistments, and the regulations appear specially designed to exclude from the army all who would be at all likely to do it credit. The first and most necessary step toward the prevention of desertion must be such a change in the condition of the soldier as will render army life at least tolerable to him. As the case stands, however, desertion would seem to be much more natural than enlistment.

SOLAR THEORIES. A very interesting discussion upon solar the ories was held at the second day's session of the National Academy of Sciences, at New-Haven. It was based upon the reports of Professor Holden and Dr. Hastings upon the solar eclipse of May 6 of the current year. The observations were taken at Caroline Island, and the conditions were favorable. Professor Holden stated the facts upon which he rested his conviction that the planet Vulcan, the existence of which was Leverrier's deduction from solar and Mercurial perturbations, is a myth. But the chief interest of the session was created by the paper of Dr. Hastings, in which he gave the grounds for his belief that the accepted theories regarding the sun's atmosphere will have to be abandoned, and that in fact the whole question of the solar elements, constitution and action must be reopened.

It is of course well known to men of

forward are merely provisional. Many treatises

have been written on the sun, and some of them are perhaps written in too confident a vein But no astronomer of any reputation or standing has undertaken to assert that we possess any definitive knowledge on the subject, nor has any hypothesis been framed which is free from very formidable objections and incongruities. Dr. Hastings sees strong reasons for doubting the theory that the sun is surrounded by an atmosphere of incandescent gas, extending to a height of 600,000 miles above the photosphere, or possibly to double that height, nd that some mysterious self-luminous matter s distributed through this incandescent atmosphere, together with other mysterious matter which reflects a diffusive light. He points out that this theory requires us to believe that an atmosphere from 600,000 to 1,200,000 miles deep receives no pressure, or practically no pressure, since the spectrum shows that the gaseous pressure at the limit of the chromosphere is scarcely perceptible. But he holds that the cometary evidence against the theory of a gaseous atmosphere is still stronger. Bodies approaching our earth with fourteen times its velocity, encounter such a pressure at a distance of ninety miles from its surface—that is to say, at twice the assumed height of our atmosphere-as to become incandescent instantly, "But," says Dr. Hastings, "there is the direct evidence that far within the limits of the corona the density must be almost infinitely less than that of our atmosphere at even sixty miles above the earth's surface. For the great comet of the last year passed at a distance of 300,000 miles of the sun, and therefore deep within the assumed coronal atmosphere. This comet traversed the intercoronal space for several millions of miles with a velocity 180 times that of the earth, not only without being stopped and precipitated upon the surface of the sun, but even

without having been checked in the least." This certainly is a formidable, if not an absoutely fatal, objection to the theory adopted by no means the only objection advanced by Dr. carefully constructed buildings. There is day naked and helpless before all possible Hastings. Thus he points out that the line great force in Dr. Bell's suggestion that the enemies; and it is significantly added that the 1.474 K in the spectrum does not behave at all consistently, or in accordance with the current hypothesis. Sometimes it is very bright and The case then stands thus: We are unlikely to apparent. At other times it is almost wanting. It would be far better to hold the Health De- be involved in a quarrel with any Power which In short, says Dr. Hastings, "if the line demonmonstrates also inconceivable changes in it.' The Doctor concluded his paper with an atdestroy, our wealthiest and most important tempted explanation of solar action based upon the diffusion of light. Professor Young spoke in answer to him subsequently, and frankly said the purpose. Unfortunately, it is evident that attack, is utterly defenceless against modern that "he had always thought and taught that the accepted hypothesis was far from perfect." He added, however, that "the atmosphere of "the sun was not an atmosphere in the same "sense in which one speaks of the earth's at-

> mosphere." This is rather painfully suggestive of the shifts to which some theologians have been driven in attempting to account for the problem of evil, and which shifts Mill has so forcibly exposed in his essays on religion. If the sun's atmosphere is not what we understand by our atmosphere, then the scientific use of that term in explanation of solar phenomena is merely a shift to conceal scientific ignorance. And, indeed, it is plain enough that Science has not yet discovered anything definite about the sun. all theories to the contrary notwithstanding. It is impossible to demonstrate the incandescence mong army authorities as to the causes of de- of the actual solar body or of its envelope or envelopes. It is impossible to explain solar action in accordance with what is known of natural law. The centre of our system is today as profound a mystery to us as it was to the Chaldeans and Akkadians, and the Asiatic hypothesis of a subtle cosmic force called Akasa, of which the sun is the storehouse and centre, is not more undemonstrable than the hypotheses which our astronomers and physicists amuse themselves and perplex the lay public by putting forward.

HOW MILK MAY BE INFECTED.

An Orange County physician makes on another page of this issue a valuable, albeit startling, contribution to a discussion already opened in these columns. We have directed attention to outbreaks of typhoid and scarlet fever in St. Pancras, London, Dundee and Port Jervis as furnishing conclusive evidence that the germs of disease are carried from daiconsumers by means of milk. In our judgment this is one of the most important subjects with which sanitary authorities have to deal. That milk is a disease-carrier and the means by the appropriations to be made in advance of the year in which they are to be expended. The extreme folly of the Board of Estimate, in making transfers to the amount of half a million dollars this year already, is shown in the fast year already, is shown in the fast here are no unexpended balances of former years. The uncollected taxes amount to \$3,100,000. In order to raise the description of the past appropriations, because the first marriage of giants in America. Mr. This great city owes it to her people that he does so at all generally for the crowd the commandated. Milk that is infected with the germs will breed disease and death. That is a conclusion which cannot be seriously questioned. It becomes, therefore, it is been practically demonstrated. Milk that is infected with the germs will breed disease and the first marriage of giants in America. Mr. O'Brien is a Catholic and Miss Danz. A Latheria to the the reasts of these two, they concluded by the first marriage of giants in America. Mr. O'Brien is a Catholic and Miss Danz. A Latheria to the first marriage of giants in America. Mr. O'Brien is a Catholic and Miss Danz. A Latheria the other explanation of the form of the first marriage of giants in America. Mr. O'Brien is a Catholic and Miss Danz. A Latheria to the first marriage of giants in America. Mr. O'Brien is a Catholic and Miss Danz. A Latheria to the first marriage of giants in America the first marriage of giants in America. Mr. O'Brien is a Catholic and Miss Danz. A Latheria to giant death. That is a conclusion which cannot be germs of the tother explanation. Besides, he cannot have the first marriage of giants in America the first mercation of the first marriage of giants in America that the oftended with the grant of the first marriage of giants in America. which contagious diseases are communicated

reasonable theory to account for the infection of milk.

Three cases of typhoid fever in a farm-house induced this physician to search for the source of the infection. He found it in a well situated in the barnyard where the cows were watered. The water of this well was tainted. The farmer becoming aware of the fact attempted to sink the well, after thoroughly cleaning it, but the workmen in pumping it out soon found that there was a stream of foul water trickling in at the bottom. This leakage from the manure of the barnyard was so offensive when drawn to the surface in unadulterated form that the workmen were sickened and forced to stop pumping. The milk of the cows which are watered regularly at the trough connecting with this well has been sent every day to New-York.

The physician who disclosed these facts states that there are scores of these barnyard wells in Orange County, whence New-York largely draws its milk supply. He describes what is known as a "model dairy farm," in which every precaution to obtain pure milk is taken save that of watering the cattle with pure water. What would the customers of this model" establishment say if they were told that the milk, for which they are charged a fancy" price, comes from cows that are regularly watered with the coze of liquid filth? When this physician says there are scores of barnyard wells in Orange County, he does not make a large demand upon the credulity of the public. It is a common practice, not only in that county, but in New-England and in agricultural districts generally, to water cattle from wells situated on the edges of barnyards. The well with the outlying trough usually determines the position of the barnyard, and manure heaps naturally encumber the surface of the ground drained for the water supply. Ordinarily, these accumulations of filth will not affect the quality of the water; but when there are large droves of cows to be milked, as is the case at the dairy-farms near New-York, there is a strong probability that water exposed to infilscience that all the theories that have been put | trations from barnyard refuse will | become infected with the elements of disease.

THE ULTIMATE TROTTER.

When Macaulay's New-Zealander shall, in the midst of a vast solitude, take his stand on a ruined tower of Brooklyn Bridge to sketch the ruins of the New-York Post Office building-when that rather distant day dawns what will be the time of the latest trotting horse that has "beaten the record "? It is an interesting question. It baffles the wisdom even of those who have made the trotter a lifelong study and are perfectly familiar with his achievements. They know what he has done, but they do not know and can only timidly guess what

The fact that the ambitious bay gelding Frank has just trotted a mile in 2:0812 adds a good deal of fuel to the flame of this interesting speculation. True, these figures are not so wonderful as those that opened the gates of deathless fame to Maud S. since Frank was "sustained and soothed" by a running mate, while Maud made her 2:10% unaided and alone, doing her own pulling as well as her own trotting. All the same 2:0812 goes upon the record. Extraordinarily low figures they are, relatively and absolutely. They show to best advantage when compared with those which represented the erack trotting of a quarter of a century ago. Before the war "2:40 on the plank road" was a familiar bit of slang and went to indicate that a trotter of that easy-going era was considered a good one if he was equal to 2:40. Nowadays horses that can trot in 2:25 are not uncommon, while scores of horses can beat 2:20, not to speak of such shining exponents of rapid transit as Maud S., Frank, Jay-Eye-See, Trinket and St. Julien. If the future is to repeat the past how many more seconds will be taken out of the trotting record by the end of this century, or say of the next? Mr. Robert Bonner lately informed a TRIBUNE reporter that he believed the day was coming when a two-minute record would be a common thing. And by way of commending his belief to whom it might concern Mr. Bonner stated that his own stables contained a horse that had trotted a quarter of a mile in 304 We have said that there is no solving this problem. Nevertheless, by way of approximating to a resuit, it is not unfair to take it for granted that the uncomnon trotter of the golden age when a mile in two minutes is to be common, will be as much taster than his common contemporary as the uncommon trotter of to-day is faster than the common trotter of to-day. In other words, the coming uncommon trotter will lead the coming common trotter by from ten to fifteen seconds, making his mile in

Now it will be generally admitted that a horse that can trot a mile in 1:45 is in small danger of getting left. Still it is possible that the record will lescend to a still lower figure. A scientist has arisen who argues in apparent good faith that in the good trotting time coming the trotter will equal the running horse in speed. Mr. Bonner is of the opinion that this scientist talks nonsense. Probably he does. But it is just possible he does not. It has lately been shown by Professor Bell before the National Academy of Sciences that the marriage of deaf-mutes with deaf-mutes tends to the formation of a brand-new variety of the human racea deaf variety. Who shall say, then, that in the course of time, and as a result of an intelligent cheme of breeding, a new variety of the equine race may not be produced-a race to which trotting shaff be the normal gait, and which shall be practically incapable of running? Let such a race of orses appear and be fully developed and it may come to pass that some Bonner of the future, alert in the grand stand with stop-watch in hand, shall see a trotter make his mile in 1:35-or thereabouts. Evidently the trotting horse has a great future

The sailors on the great lakes have had good ocasion during the past few days to appreciate the value of the Life Saving Service. The storms have been severe, as they often are on these treacherous inland seas; there have been many wrecks, and a number of lives have been lost. The number would have been much greater " it had not been for the efforts of the Life Saving crews, who worked with real heroism. The rescued men all speak with the greatest gratitude of the help received. The work done by the Service on occasions like these and like the Ohio floods last spring gives it a high place in the affections of vast numbers of the people throughout the country. It is to be hoped that the Democratic House will leave this branch of the Government service out of its calculations when it begins its cheese-paring this winter. It is safe to say that the people are in favor, without distinction of party, of a liberal policy toward it.

It is with great relief that the country will learn that all difficulties in the way of the marriage of Mr. " Pat" O'Brien and Miss Annie Dunz have been removed. Mr. O'Brien is a professional giant, now on exhibition in a Pittsburg museum, and Miss Annie Dunz is a professional giantess. Whether because business was dull and the manager wanted a sensation, or because a flame of love-perhaps it ought to be called a whole bonfire-had sprung up

valor, and knows the superior sex when he sees it. The bride's dress will contain seventy yards of white satin. Her gloves are now being manufactured in this city, while her slippers are built in Pittsburg. The ring will be the largest ever known. There is a tremendous pressure upon the manager for invitations. We extend all the congratulations we have about us to the happy pair with the hope that there may be enough to go around, and that business may continue to be good at the museum.

The Oberlin druggist who came within two votes of getting a verdict for libel against the preacher who described his soul as "whisking" in a downward direction is the best advertised vender of patent |medicines and fly-paper in the country. He will probably invent a new bitters or cough exterminator. None genuine without the names of the ten jurymen blown in the bottle.

Now that Luther is under discussion it is in order to recall the fact that a great English Reformer, Wyclif, has never received the recognition to which he is entitled, from his own countrymen. Professor Loberth, of Germany, has just published a book showing Wyclif's greatness, and demonstrating that Huss owed nearly all his theological ideas to the Englishman, whose works he copied, often almost literally. There is a "Wyclif So ciety " in England, but it is so poor that it cannot find the funds necessary for the publication of even a small part of the reformer's works, and so it is that while English-speaking people are lavishing erudition and eulogium upon Luther, a great English pioneer in Protestantism remains in the obscurity which he has now occupied for five hundred years. Since England cannot summon the energy to do honor to Wyclif, perhaps America may, as she has previously in more than one instance done, step in to atone for the ungrateful neglect of the mother country.

Major W. Cornwallis West, of the British Volunteers, has been visiting Chicago, and the newspapers have been welcoming him as a person of distinction on the ground of his being the husband of a lady who has become famous for her beauty. As one of them neatly put it, this was his " distinctive characteristic," and of the lady it was kindly said that her "charms have for quite a while resisted the assaults of time." We say kindly, because she is not with her husband, and the reporter therefore was polite enough to take this for granted. The Major was seated in the hotel rotunda while under the interviewer's hands, and was smoking. The reporter does say that the Major's puffs at his eigar were "annoyingly lengthy," but does not seem to have been otherwise disturbed at his rather uncommunicative disposition. He had the good taste, nowever, to be "greatly charmed" with the ountry, and so made "a better impression" upon the reporter "than most Englishmen." It appears that "besides" being the husband of Mrs. West, he is the consin of Mr. West, the British Minister at Washington. He is "an easy-looking man, rather tall, it is true, but with a winning face and a hesitancy in his speech which is engaging." This will reassure "tall", men who may be doubtful of their ability to "look" easy. Mr. West, it is pleasing to know, dresses plainly, "the only thing pronounced being a pair of light-colored shoe-uppers,"

PERSONAL.

Senator Ingalls will be in Washington next week. His family is already there.

The Hon, George Bancroft will give to the Iowa town named for him \$1,000 worth of books for a public library.

Mrs. Mark Honkins has come from San Francisco to her residence in Great Barrington, Mass., and will remain there for several weeks

Miss Juliet Corson is in Oakland, Cal., organizing classes in cooking and delivering free lectures on the subject to women who are too poor to pay for instruction.

A handsome granite monument has been placed in Forest Grove Cemetery, Augusta, Me., in honor of the late Lot M. Morrill. It stands in the family lot near the simple headstone that marks the sta

Joseph Proctor, the actor, well known through his performances in "Nick of the Woods," first appeared on the stage in Boston on November 29, 1833, and his fiftleth anniversary is to be cele-brated in that city by a special benefit matinée at the Boston Theatre on Friday of next week.

Alboni at the age of nineteen one day amused herself by singing at the top of her voice the arias she seconds. Assuming that Mr. Bonner is correct, it is had heard some then famous artists sing. She was to be remarked that when a mile in two minutes is all alone in her parlor, and much enjoyed what she a common thing the uncommon trotter will of considered her extravagant burlesques of operatio course find no difficulty in striking a yet more | performances. But Franz Liszt was somewhere within earshot, and suddenly he burst into the room with his face aglow. "Who was that singing?" "I." "And who are you?" Marietta Alboni."
"Well, then, Franlein Marietta Alboni, do you know that you sing like a great prima donna?" Thirty years later the two met again in Rassini's salon, and Liszt reminded her of the incident and of his comment upon her singing, which had been so signally justified.

To-morrow Solidor Milon will celebrate at his home in Philadelphia the completion of his ninetysixth year, and the Philadelphia Musical Association, of which he was one of the founders, will present him with a fitting testimonial. Solidor Milon was born at Nice, entered the French Army in boyhood, followed Napoleon through almost every battle from Austerlitz to Waterloo, and then went to St. Helena and remained near his imperial master to the end. He still possesses his commission as second lieutenant in the "Old Guard"—of which he is one of the very few survivors—written on parchment, bearing Napoleon's seal and a silver cross attached by a bit of blue ribbon,

Washington, Nov. 17 .- It is expected that the President will leave the Soldiers' Home about the last of this month and take up his residence in the

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17 .- Lieutenant - General Sheridan to-day formally assumed his duties as president of the Board of Commissioners of the Soldiers' Home, vice General Sherman, relieved at the regular meeting of the Board.

BURLINGTON, Iowa, Nov. 17 .- General A. Dodge, formerly a Minister to Spain and Once a member of the United States Senate, is dangerously ill

BITS OF CRITICISM.

Victor Hugo's Descriptions.—This volubility, this restless quest of literary ornamentation, has been growing upon him year by year, until at length (in prose at least) his vast forces are absorbed in ransacking the physical and moral worlds for the symbols and analogues and parallels which the sceno suggests to his own active and vigorous mind rather than in bringing the scene before the eye of the reader. That such a method is statal to narrative art solvious enough, for in telling a story it is imperative not only that the literary habit or trick of parallel should be kept down, but even that bare descriptions—descriptions in which no such literary finsel occurs-should seem, as in flomer and Chaucer, for instance, they always seem, inevitable and half unconscious. Each description, in short, should be so turoduced that it seems to be brought in as part and parcel of the dramatic movement itself, and never for its own sake. And whenever description is so introduced the scenery itself rises before the reader's imagination with a sharpness of outline, a vigor of color, which no amount of detailed description can ever achieve.—[The Atheneum. VICTOR HUGO'S DESCRIPTIONS.-This volu-

Dramatizing Novels.—No task is as delicate or as thankless as the dramatizing of a novel, even with the benefit of the original author's aid and good will. And the more popular the Lovel and the greater its success has been the more difficult is the work of the adapter. To make a good play out of a novel the dramatist must take only the central situations and the chief characters; and these he must mould anew, presenting them dramatically as the novelist has presented them in narrative. But the better known the story is the greater is the pressure on the dramatist to spoil the play by an effort to put more of the novel in it than the play will hold. This is perhaps the reason why the best dramatizations of novels are those which—to be Hilbernian—were written before the novels, as "Masks and Faces" preceded "Peg Worfington," and as M. Georges Olinet work "Seege Panlin" as a play before he wrote it as a novel.—[The Saturday Review. DRAMATIZING NOVELS .- No task is as delicate